

the **ONYX** *informer*



*Serving the people of
the African Diaspora...
since 1972*

Knowledge is the prime need of the hour. ~ Mary Macleod Bethune, 1955

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Truth knows no color; it appeals to intelligence. ~ **James Cone**, 1986

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The Opinions and feelings expressed in The Onyx Informer are not necessarily those of The Onyx staff or of the Northeastern administration. The Onyx is a monthly publication run by undergraduate students, who oversee all aspects and operation involving the production of this publication.

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To our Readers,

February is a special month for all of us because we take a moment to look back in so that we may move forward. The Onyx Informer was established in 1972 in a time when a voice for the black community here at Northeastern needed to be heard.

The founding principle the Onyx was built from was a newspaper to cover aspects of Black life as it is related to the NU community topics that directly or indirectly affect the Black student community.

And as we look back on the 6 major purposes the Onyx developed in its founding:

- ~ To provide work-study jobs for black students who wished to obtain newspaper experience.
- ~ To allow journalism majors the chance to experiment with their creativity and to develop good journalistic style.
- ~ To contain a literary section that provided an outlet for black students interested in the arts.
- ~ To inform black students and community residents of the events that surround them
- ~ To announce events held in the community and other colleges.
- ~ To educate black people to their position and potential to the university world.

This month we look forward at ways to revitalize the support and reputation the Onyx once had (when it was common to see publications printed twice a month with out fail).

Today, we are dedicated to preserving and enhancing this legacy established before us while adapting to the present needs of our readers. We, at the Onyx, are committed with such intensity to improving the quality and scope of our publication with each and every issue.

It is this month, in which we wish to share with you our gratefulness and appreciation to our ancestors and all who have come before us. With our sincere gratitude to all of our readers and supporters,

Onyx

The media's the most powerful entity on earth. They have the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent, and that's power. Because they control the minds of the masses. ~ **Malcom X**, 1963

Peace still submerged within latest conflicts in the Middle East

Due to conflicts that have arisen between Palestinian militias and Israeli military, peace seems to have taken a back seat to hostility and sub-par foreign relations efforts. Israeli leader Ariel Sharon has stated that peace talks cannot continue with Palestine, adding that Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, was not using his full authority to prevent the hostile actions against Israeli civilians, deeming Arafat "irrelevant."

Soon after, violence increased when Israeli military missiles hit Palestinian naval vessels, destroying 58 homes and leaving 511 Palestinians homeless. Israeli officials released a statement saying that Palestinian leadership was importing an abundant amount of arms and munitions that were allegedly brought from Iran.

Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade launched an attack near a Jewish settlement, killing one Israeli soldier and wounding another, just one day after a top militant, Raed Al-Karmi from Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah party, was killed. In relation to this, the Al Aqsa Brigades claimed responsibility, Monday afternoon, for a drive-by shooting at a Jewish settlement west of Nablus. Israeli Army sergeant of Tiberias, Sgt. Elad Abu-Ganui, 19, was killed and second Lt. Yaniv Uzi-Dan sustained light-to-moderate gunshot wounds. Chief Palestinian negotiator, Saeb Erakat, explained that "Israel should stop its assassinations policy in order not to provoke the Palestinians and allow the Palestinian Authority to control the streets and maintain a ceasefire."

After an attack by a Palestinian militant on a bat mitzvah in Hadera that left six Israelis dead, Israeli F-16 fighter jets dropped seven missiles on the compound of Palestinian governor of Tulkarem, Izzeddin Al-Sharif. One Palestinian was killed and 50 others were wounded.

The Israeli government placed blame for the attacks squarely on Arafat's shoulders. "This just corroborates what we have been saying all along: That Arafat does not take any measures whatsoever in order to

dismantle the terrorist infrastructure," stated Israeli government spokesman Ra'anan Gissin. He adds, "As leader of the Palestinian Authority, the PLO and Fatah, Chairman Arafat must take immediate action against those responsible for these acts and confront the infrastructure that perpetuates terror and violence."

As a result, Palestinian Security forces took into custody Ahmed Sa-adat, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, whom Israeli officials blame for the assassination of Israeli Tourism Minister Rechavam Ze'evi. Following these increases in violence, it seems as though neither Palestinians nor Israelis are prepared for the sought after resolution of peace.



Arafat (left) and Sharon (right)

Indian-Pakistani tensions arise from region's 2001 conflict

India has charged Pakistan with backing Muslim extremist groups that have staged a number of terrorist attacks in the disputed area. Two particularly deadly attacks have contributed to the escalation of hostilities. One, in October, took place at the legislature in Srinagar, in Kashmir. The other occurred last month at India's parliament. (MSNBC.com).

As a result, hundreds of troops from both countries – each of which has nuclear capabilities – have been gathered at their common border. India said it will not withdraw its troops from its border with Pakistan until the Pakistanis show greater commitment to fighting terrorism. India has handed to Pakistan a list of 20 people New Delhi identified as terrorists and wants arrested.

Although violence continues in the disputed region, Kashmir, intervention from US foreign affairs seems to have relaxed tensions between the two long time adversaries. US Secretary of State Powell stated that Pakistan has made progress, including the arrests of extremists, the banning of suspect organizations and closing of such organizations' offices. Also, Pakistan President, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, addressed the methods in which his country's intends to fight terror. As these methods have been cautiously but optimistically received by India, they have served to ease the tensions in the region. Powell's visit also has apparently helped lessen the threat of war.

Argentina's economic downward spiral reaches new lows.

Argentina, a South American nation, has taken a plunge off the economic ladder. The country has exceeded a distressing 18% unemployment rate at the end of 2001 and reported that its less than efficient banking system has received a blow in its already dwindling confidence due to a loss of at least 5 billion dollars within the last 6 month.

Once regarded as one of the world's richest countries (using average income per person comparison), surpassing developed German and French economies, Argentina steadily downsized its fiscal value over the past 70 years.

Argentine leaders have come to the conclusion that the chronic government deficit, tax evasion, a weak entrepreneurial sector, and uncompetitive wages are the cause for such demoralizing results. Argentina's plans for economic reformation and eventual increased fiscal value will be slowed down by the lack of a currency board, which causes fear of devalued pesos while US dollar deposits were left unconverted, the situation leaves banks receiving cheapened pesos while retaining obligations in expensive dollars.

Noteworthy

ECONOMY

Job Seekers lowering their sights.

Only 78% of job searchers got equal or better pay at their new jobs in Q4, say outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. That's the lowest since Challenger began collecting data in 1986. The recession and post-attack uncertainty have job applicants accepting less money. (IBD)

Japan's signed a bilateral free-trade pact with Singapore. **Japan's first bilateral free-trade pact with any country.** This agreement will eliminate tariffs on goods which encompasses nearly 99% of the two nations trade. Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok said the the trade agreement also includes provisions for cooperation in areas of science & technology, financial services, tourism and training.

TECHNOLOGY

Tech Consulting Spending Rises.

U.S. companies are budgeting more money for tech consulting, outsourcing and other services. They're expecting to spend \$178 billion on those items in 2002, up from \$110 in 1999. Spending on computers and peripheral gear, meanwhile, is falling. (Giga Information Group)

IN THE NATION

The Army Corps of Engineers will let developers seek "nationwide permits" that would allow speedy government approval if their impact on streams or marshes is minimal. Environmental restrictions established during the Clinton administration

have been eliminated under Bush. Developers are no longer required to restore or create an acre of wetlands for every acre filled.

Social Security. The Social Security Administration will pay \$7.75 million to settle a suit, by 2,200 black male workers, to avoid court proceedings, after 7 years of negotiations. In 1995, men working in Woodlawn, MD sued the SSA for discriminatin, claiming that they had been denied promotions and pay based on race and sex. (AP)

Airline passengers subjected to new baggage screening law; no reports of unusual delays

Since the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 and the crash of TWA Flight 800, presidential panels have recommended that airlines make sure passengers travel with their bags, but airlines have resisted. On February 17, the industry will hand over responsibility for airline security to the new Transportation Security Administration.

The congressionally imposed law requiring airlines to check baggage for explosives was imposed Friday, January 18. All bags must be inspected by machine, bomb-sniffing dogs, by hand, or by matched each checked bag to a passenger on board. Sources indicate no major problems occurred. Transportation Secretary Norman Mienta has assured officials that the 2 other aviation security law deadlines would be met: 1) developing a new training program for security screeners, including 40 hours of classroom training and 60 hours of training on the job; and 2) developing guide-

lines for training flight crews with facing threats. There has been some uncertainty surrounding the transition of more than 30,000 employees, the administration hopes to complete the transition to a workforce, fully under federal supervision, of approximately 430 commercial airports by year end, says Mienta.

Boeing Hit with Gender Suits

Women working in California, Kansas, and Missouri sued the aerospace company, claiming they were denied promotions or pay raises due to gender. The law firm said the suits are on behalf of several current and former employees in each state. A lawyer representing the women said in a statement that the suits allege Boeing has "deep-seated gender bias within its organization" and hasn't done enough to change its policies. The lawsuits ask discriminatory actions to stop, for back pay, compensatory damages and other punitive damages for the workers. These suits come after another series of similar suits filed against Boeing in 1999 where Boeing agreed to pay at least \$4.5 million to female and minority workers to settle similar claims.

HEALTH

80% of children with cancer worldwide die of the illness because lifesaving treatments aren't available in poor nations, cancer experts say. (Investor's Business Daily)

A single genetic mutation allows people to tolerate milk after infancy, U.S. and Finnish researchers said. The changes is virtually the same in people of African, Asian, and European descent.

BUSINESS TIPS: THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB SEARCH STRATEGY

The Most Important Job Search Strategy

Looking for a job? If so, don't forget to take care of YOU during the process, and yes, that means taking the time to "smell the roses." You must have something to look forward to everyday, because job searching is hard work.

Give yourself pep talks, stay active, and work hard to remain positive. Keeping yourself optimistic will increase your self-confidence and help you overcome even daunting obstacles. And, don't neglect your spiritual life.

Life constantly has its obstacles but overcoming them is the biggest step, to do so, remain confident and spiritually fit.

~Aja Jackson

Since September 11, the way we all look at and consider our roles in life and work have changed. People are now more confused on questions of meaning and value, both personally and professionally. Employees want to feel as if their jobs have value, and that they are contributing to society in some purposeful way.

In challenging times, the corporate vision, mission, and values keep a company strong. Engaging employees in the mission has never been more importnt, and communication amongst all levels of the corporate structure is the key. Employees can help by suggesting ideas to improve the corporate environment and goals.

ONYX The Village

Never work just for money or for power. They won't save your soul or help you sleep at night. ~ **Marian Wright Edelman**, 1992

The Villages recognizes people, businesses, and organizations from our communities (the Northeastern University and the Greater Boston area community) who we believe have exhibited actions, philosophies, or personal/professional accomplishment that deserves recognition. If you know of someone that you feel should be recognized in the Village, please contact us.

OnyxInformer@yahoo.com

Whether an urban or suburban borough, every community deserves members that help shape the environment in which its leaders develop. The Northeastern University community has many of those people included in its faculty, staff and student body.

The Onyx Informer introduces you to Gregory W. Riley, Coordinator of Events and Operations at the John D. O'Bryant African-American Institute.

Born on the Caribbean island of Barbados, one of the most densely populated countries next to Asia, Riley believes his family and culture had great influence on his upbringing. He feels his background gave him a well-rounded outlook on life, to be open-minded and to explore by asking questions. It is with this sentiment that he acknowledges how important it is for the Black students at Northeastern University to "take advantage" of all the resources available to them. Making use of all means and modes of education including both the classroom and social aspect. "What you experience in college is only a microcosm of what you may experience in society. Do as much as you can, make mistakes here [at NU], socialize and network."

Riley's own adventures for so-

cializing and experiencing life include his professional career as a table tennis player. Holding a ten-year reign at the professional level, he won championships in the junior and senior level throughout the Caribbean, South and Central America, and Europe.

Riley feels continuous improvement in life is always possible. Through his feats in table tennis, traveling and encountering new people, he has learned to always help somebody out whenever possible. Making life better for another person can be good for all, that one person could make a difference. During his time at Northeastern, Riley hopes to increase awareness of the cultural self on a global plane. With a self-conscious and social awareness backdrop, he hopes to have more students leaving knowing more than they came in with.

Experiencing different fights and struggles for different causes and beliefs are important in building character. Riley holds great empathy for the Black student struggle on campus. He explains that the fight to retain the African-American Institute [AAI] as a free-standing edifice as "some feel[ing] a need for more African-American presence" because there is limited con-

tact with a home feel where everyone helps each other and is comfortable with one another. Riley included, the students, faculty and community at the AAI are always helpful. There is a positive feeling and no one is concerned about people working against their own personal struggle to succeed at the University.

Riley mentioned his goal to create opportunities back home in the islands- traveling and learning through sports. Offering the good support that was given to him. Developing programs for sponsorships and scholarships to facilitate success for others would please him in supplement to his goal for continuing his education in attaining a PhD in Finance.

Discussing the situation of hardship in the West Indies, Riley commented, "Poverty is not only a financial state. It is also a mental state-education is key. Learning about people and learning about your history is important. Clean up your own backyard. Gain and grasp knowledge, then branch out and develop. Stop finding symptoms, find a source."

Black History in Boston: Leaving Behind a Legacy.

[An abbreviated chronology]

1638: Eight years after the original settlement of Boston, a ship named *Desire* arrived in Boston with the first African slaves.

1641: Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth were the first colonies to authorize slavery through legislation as part of the *1641 Body of Liberties*.

1780: A Declaration of Rights was added to the state constitution abolishing slavery in Massachusetts. In the 1781 court case *Commonwealth v. Jennison*, slavery in the state was declared unconstitutional.

1796: A group of Boston Blacks founded the African Society for Mutual Aid and Charity. The Society provided social-welfare services, financial relief, and job placement to its members and their families.

1826: A group of Black Bostonians founded the Massachusetts General Colored Association to fight for an end to slavery, they became Boston's primary abolition organization.

1831: William Lloyd Garrison prints first issues of his anti-slavery newspaper, *The Liberator*. Black entrepreneur and abolitionist Robert Forten becomes chief financial supporter of the publication.

1848: Benjamin Roberts tries to enroll his daughter, Sarah, in each of the five public schools that stood between their home and the Smith school in Boston. Sarah was denied entrance to all of them, so Roberts sued the city under an 1845 statute providing recovery of damages for any child unlawfully denied public school instruction.

1849: Charles Sumner and black attorney, Robert Morris, unsuccessfully challenge segregation in the Boston schools in the Sarah Roberts Case.

1865: John S. Rock, a noted Boston lawyer, became the first African-American to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court and the first Black person to speak before the U.S. House of Representatives.

1870: John J. Smith, whose barber shop was an abolitionist rendezvous prior to the Civil War, was elected to the state House of Representatives in 1868 and 1869, and then re-elected in 1872. He was also the first Black to serve on the Boston Common Council in 1878.

1895: W.E.B. Du Bois (photo, right), born in Massachusetts, was the first African-American to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard.

1900: The National Negro Business League was founded in Boston by Booker T. Washington "to bring the colored people who are engaged in business together for consultation, and to secure information and inspiration from each other." More than 400 business people from 34 states attended the convention.

1912: W.E.B. Du Bois established the Boston Branch of the NAACP, the first official and now the oldest branch. The purpose was "to uplift the colored men and women of this country by securing to them full enjoyment of their rights as citizens, justice in all courts, and equality of opportunity everywhere."

1964: The Museum of Afro-American History was established by Dean Howard and Sue Bailey Thurman "to advance knowledge, through historic examination" about the African-American presence in Boston and New England.

1965: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a graduate of Boston University led a march from Roxbury

to a rally on Boston Common to protest the evils of school segregation in Boston. Dr. King spoke at the State House and in June the legislature passed the Racial Imbalance Act requiring school desegregation.

Source: Boston Globe

The Onyx Informer is looking for writers, reporters, and those interested in the behind-the-scenes aspects of the publication to join our organization.

General Body Meetings for the remainder of the Winter quarter are scheduled as follows:

Monday, Feb 4 @ 5:30 pm

Monday, Feb 11 @ 5:30 pm

Monday, Feb 25 @ 5:30 pm

Monday, Mar 11 @ 5:30 pm

Monday, Mar 25 @ 5:30 pm

**For more information:
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Did You Know...

Sojourner Truth (1820-1883) was born into slavery in upstate New York as Isabella Baumfree. She escaped just before the state abolished slavery, and moved to New York City. She began working with organizations to assist women. But, not long after, became a traveling preacher and prophet, adopting the name "Sojourner Truth". She developed a reputation as a powerful speaker and became known for her quick wit and powerful presence. Standing nearly 6", she was not one to be intimidated; and was often accused of being a man until she exposed her breasts to the accusing audience in Silver Lake, Indiana. As one of the first to link the oppression of black slaves with the oppression of women, Truth spoke before Congress and two presidents urging that land in the West and money be allocated blacks.

Although Truth was an extraordinary woman, she may be best known for a speech she gave the 1851 Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio: "Dat man ober dar say dat woman needs to be helped over carriages, and lifted ober dicthes and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody eber helps me into carriages, or ober muddpuddles, or bigs me any best place. And ain't I a woman? Look at me. Looka at me arm. I have ploughes and planted and gathered into barns, and no mand could head me! And ain't I a woman."



ONYX Speak

Attention People Individually and Collectively,

I am sending this letter out, as the appointed liaison of myself, but more so as a descendant of the people who died and survived the bloodshed, tears and fears, as a child of the lives that gave birth to me and my peers, and the minds that grew up with me and my years. I type these black words on paper, to the ones who joked with me, were broke with me, and to the ones that joke about how broke we are, but hopefully are no longer going to be, physically, financially, mentally and spiritually bankrupt. To the ones who were at the parties, in the classes, or at the rallies, the Institute, and Student Centers, I'M TALKING TO YOU!

I speak today on a smaller scale, than from the other elevated plateaus I hope to plant my feet on. Standing on the grounds of this campus, this letter is to the majority of the minorities at Northeastern University that know me, know of me, have seen or have never seen me. I assume that pretty much covers everyone. [But an @\$\$ does take up the first three letters of the word, and right now, that's not what I am trying to be, but probably would be considered at the end of this reading.]

I sit back and view the daily interactions between us on campus. Unknowingly to most, a heinous crime is being committed through a regular occurrence of simul-

taneous subconscious infractions. We all, at one time or another, were and still are, accomplices to historic criminals; criminals that harnessed a plague – HATE – that manifested itself from a virus NOT CARING, contaminating a once beautiful, loving and considerate people. We now spread the virus amongst each other and in essence should all be deemed suspect.

As victims of our own crimes, we bypass others we don't know because it's just too much to acknowledge a stranger with a head nod, a wave, a wassup or hello. We continue that very same act with people we broke bread with, a sunrise before, with the sunset that has just passed seemingly wiping our minds clear of ever knowing the next man existed less than 24 ours ago. We either walk with our foreheads to the ground as if our shoes are the most important things in the world, or with our noses high in the sky, as if everyone below that level is beneath us, creating so much of a gap between our @\$\$e\$ and nasal passages, that by the time the scent hits our noses, we actually believe that our \$hit doesn't stink. We hate on the next man, about a status someone else gave him. We hate on each other's beauty, because of man made mirrors that only reflect what we perceive as beautiless images.

If women want any rights more than they's got, why don't they just take them, and not be talking about it. ~ **Sojourner Truth, 1850**

It has been viewed that we bar ourselves from communal establishments and organizations; that were created for the better of us as a people, because of a few others that congregate within that habitat that we just can't stand. We reside at those same structures and associations and aid in its destruction by creating the drama that keeps others from wanting to enter and link with the unity that is supposed to occur. We cloak opportunities and experiences that have helped us in our lives, from others in need of those blessings, just to be able to hold onto something valuable that we no longer have use for. Where's Da Love???

Our eyes need to meet one another, and shift the imbalance we face looking at the ground or the sky. Our greetings and salutations need to occur beyond and act of just doing. Our memories need exercise. Our support needs a foundation. Our everyday way of interacting needs to focus on the fact that we are interdependent of each other, NOT independent. Truth needs to be restored into sincerity. Passion needs to be restored into purpose. Love needs to be restored in the home, the heart. And to all my peoples whether I know ya'll or not, we live in a ever so deplorable (****ed up) system, but it is possible...

~ Dr. C.A. Light

**Have something on your mind? Do you want to be heard?
Voice your opinions through the Onyx Informer. Speak Out!
Send writings to OnyxInformer@yahoo.com. (Please limit to 600 words max.)**

Walking on King's Highway: King Talk is Cheap Talk

On the occasion of Dr. King's birthday in 2002, the greatest need of the hour is no longer empty praises to a man that is dead and gone. We need concrete steps to keep his Dream alive. Yes, It's fitting that on Dr. King's Birthday Day, those willing to go the extra mile in keeping his dream alive praise his contributions to humanity in order to remind the youth of the way things were and the way things ought to be. After September 11, King's message of non-violence, tolerance, justice and peace-

ful co-existence is more urgent today than ever in our history. Yet the means of achieving such noble goals are more remote today than ever because while the number of people jumping on the Praise Bandwagon has increased, few are willing to put their money into social change initiatives. King lay down more than money, he lay down his life. Responding to his sacrifice, there is a need for setting up a special King's Social Change and Peace Fund, which will keep his dream alive. The weight of empty praises

upon a slain hero is an unnecessary burden and waste of time. Isn't it time for change?

Upon arrival in the USA over a decade ago, I joined the struggle in the battle against racial discrimination, which King should have won decades earlier. The immigration quota for admitting refugees into the US was not allocated based on the gravity of refugee problems in regions of conflict but rather on racial and political considerations in Washington. Refugees, whether they were Africans or Europeans

Imperialism at its Best

Commentary by Mireille Shantale Maurice

suffer equally, fleeing death, torture, rape, religious persecution, ethnic cleansing, economic depravation and gender discrimination. However, upon arrival in America, European refugees were treated differently from refugees of color. For example, according to the US state department, between 1980 and the year 2000, 67,000 refugees from the entire continent of Africa were admitted in the USA. Africa's population is nearly 700 million people, with 3.3 million refugees according to the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees, UNHCR. Compare the total for the African Continent to Europe. Between 1990 and 2000, over 300,000 refugees were admitted from the European nation of Bosnia to the USA. Bosnia has a population of 3.9 million people of which 614,000 were refugees. All refugees cannot come to America. That is not the solution. However, in keeping with King's doctrine, the refugee admission process must be fair irrespective of race, religion and national origin. To that standard, we have fallen far short of King's expectation.

Of all refugees of color facing discrimination in America, the plight of Liberian refugees is an excellent case, which demonstrates how deep the race issue, is still alive in America. The March 3, 1819 Act of the US Congress, entitled, **The Act in Addition To Acts Prohibiting The Slave Trade** lay the ground work and provided the first one hundred thousand dollars that made the Liberian settlement a reality. While their ancestors built the United States and fought in every battle including the American Revolution, African Americans were forced by civil rights denial because of racism to seek liberty abroad on the West African Coast in 1822. About 50 of the first 88 American Negro emigrants who went to Africa died of malaria and other tropical diseases. At the same time, Europeans were coming to America, the Land of the free, which could not even guarantee freedom to its own natives if they were Native Americans, of African descent or "Free Men of Color". The American Negro emigrants founded Liberia and named its capitol city Monrovia in honor of US president, James Monroe. The US Dollar is legal tender in Liberia. The Liberia flag is a replica of the US flag. African Americans were granted automatic citizenship in Liberia for over a century. 12 presidents of Liberia were natives of the

The January 21, 2002 edition of U.S. News and World Report's article, "Giving Afghan Girls a chance", describes the recent changes in the Afghan educational system amid the war on terrorism. With the attack on the World Trade Center and the U.S' bold attempt to end this evil that destroyed the world's greatest architecture, some deem, and financial structure, the Taliban is coming to quick demise? Or are they? Who is the Taliban? What is their purpose? I do not intend to give a historical overview of this social group, however a few words on their aim and objectives will support my comments on the article, "Giving Afghan Girls a Chance."

In the 1998 article, "The Afghan Taliban: Like it or Not, It Occupies Two-Thirds of the Afghanistan and Shows No Sign of Weakening", Musa M. Maroofi, delineates the Taliban within a historical and cultural context. Defined as a religious proletariat credited with running the school system and social aspects of life, they are distinguished men of Allah, who are willing to fight the cause of Islam by any means necessary. The article further discusses the Taliban's reign in Afghanistan and all that are afraid of this big bad wolf. By controlling over two-thirds of the Afghan population and concentration in the power of religious and cultural norms, The Taliban, according to Maroofi brings about the best of both worlds. Under their regime, natives can thrive under political oppression or accept the prestige of mujahideen (holy warriors). After so many years of destruction and warfare, the caste has changed; the elite that may have challenged the tactics of the Taliban have vanished. One may say the Taliban exists as a militia attempting to overthrow the reigns of traditional government and replace it with divine law. Whatever the case may be, the demise of this group, begs the question, why is America concerned with the Taliban? Is the war on Terrorism about the dismantling of this group grounded on guerilla warfare, or is America sticking its nose where it doesn't belong.

The Attack on the World Trade Center is forever imbedded in our minds, thoughts, actions, and world. None of us

can forget the dip in our hearts and aghast in our attitudes when the World's wondrous prize financial structure was annihilated by the hand of an assassin. Moving into 2002 with the war on Terrorism, a big concern with our officials and government is 'are we spinning our wheels in the right direction?' Are we addressing the true cause of terrorism or, becoming watchdogs for the entire world? Imperialism is not a novel concept to this land of liberty. For centuries, Americans have perpetuated a superior attitude in behavior norms, and customs. Any deviation from the American political right was deemed hazardous to the entire world. It called for direct intervention on our part to fix the problem. Maybe acculturating our foreign citizens to the American way of life would resolve world conflict. Let the milk and honey that flowed so easily in our land of liberty, cleanse the guilty stains of our neighbors. But some may argue with that point when you consider the Middle Passage, The Berlin Conference, and Vietnam...

In the article, "Giving Afghan Girls a Chance", we are informed about the burgeoning educational process for children with the change in power of the Taliban. According to Kevin Whitelaw, "during the Taliban's five year rule in Kabal, girls were forbidden to go to school." Now that they are returning to the ABC's, many are determined to make it and overcome anarchy. One girl, Ferishta Shagharsi, wants to be a doctor, however at age 15, she is only in the second grade according to the Afghan school system. Many press on even in the midst of warfare and ruin. The entrenchment of U.S. troops in October 2001 has brought about a plethora of changes worldwide. These changes are beyond the scope of this commentary, but a few are notable. A decline in gas prices, which exhilarated U.S. drivers, more news and education on foreign policy and the destruction of so-called religious forces that deprived innocent children of the basic fun-



"King: Cont'd on page 19

"Afghan" Cont'd on page 19

ONYX Health

Eating For Life

by Tyeese L Gaines

4.8 million, or 2.5% of, Americans consume a vegetarian diet, according to the 2000 national Zogby poll sponsored by the Vegetarian Resource Group. This is up from 1% in the 1994 and 1997 polls. While the number of total vegetarians has increased, the percentage of vegetarians that have chosen not to eat any animal products - vegans - has remained the same. Vegetarians are making this lifestyle change for several reasons. The two most common are to improve their health and to decrease animal cruelty. The PETA - People for Ethical Treatment of Animals - seem to have coined it best in their slogan to promote vegetarian diets, "Eating for Life: Yours and Theirs".

Animal Cruelty

The idea of mistreating animals for human consumption of its meat, eggs, and by-products caused Alex, 25, a San Jose resident, to stage his own personal protest. "Animals are treated inhumanely, and in order to not be a part of that, I decided to [prove] animal flesh is not required for human sustenance", says Alex. Steve, 19, a Ft. Lauderdale student, shared a similar view. "I realized... it was stealing something that isn't ours to eat or use".

Vegetarians, who change their habits for moral reasons, are often bombarded with information such as that put forth by the PETA regarding the cruel conditions of animals that are processed for humans to eat.

Unnatural conditions like using bovine growth hormone to increase cow milk production, machines to facilitate the egg laying process from start to finish including sunlight exposure, and keeping the animals in crowded unsanitary cages are examples of these cruel circumstances. In addition, milking machines can cause cuts on the cows that lead to mastitis - a painful bacterial infection.

PETA's 1994 undercover

investigation into the "broiler" chicken industry revealed birds suffering from dehydration, respiratory diseases, bacterial infections, crippled legs, heart attacks, and other serious ailments.

Health issues

Treasure, 21, a Boston student, has been a lacto-ovo vegetarian his entire life, thanks to his parents. "My father was always into good health, not only with eating, but spiritually and physical fitness as well." After having a "bad experience" with meat, his father refrained from meat ever since.

According to the American Dietetic Association, a diet low in animal products is lower in total fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol, thus reducing the risk of heart disease and cancer.

The flesh of animals - including fish - has excessive amounts of protein, fat and cholesterol. Too much protein alone, particularly that of animal sources, can result in heart disease, stroke, osteoporosis - by blocking calcium absorption- and kidney stones, according to Monique Gilbert, B.Sc, author of "Virtues of Soy: A Practical Health Guide and Cookbook". The American Heart Association deems 50-60 grams of protein sufficient for most adults, which is about 10% of total daily calories.

A Food and Drug Administration (FDA) report names poultry as the #1 source of food borne illnesses, causing an estimated 1,680 deaths per year as well as stomach upset and food poisoning.

Fish can also accumulate extremely high levels of toxins that can cause a selection of health problems from kidney damage to impaired mental development, according to the PETA.

Vegetarianism - the healthy way

Vegetarian diets - lacto ovo, ovo, lacto, or vegan - differ greatly in the dinner table dos and don'ts. Vegans do not eat any animals or animal products. This includes, but is not limited to, meat, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy and honey. The remaining types of vegetarians also abstain from eating meat, fish, or poultry, but differ in the choice of eating dairy and egg products. Lacto infers the consumption of dairy products. Ovo infers the consumption of eggs. Lacto-ovo means both are present in the diet.

Removing certain foodstuffs from the diet requires examination of the person's new overall diet to ensure that all of the vitamins, minerals and nutrients are still being provided. According to Steve, "as a traditional Hispanic family, meat was considered a source of strength and vitality. My parents believed I would become anemic if I stopped eating animals". Concerns about vitamin and mineral supplementation can be simply avoided with a varied diet.

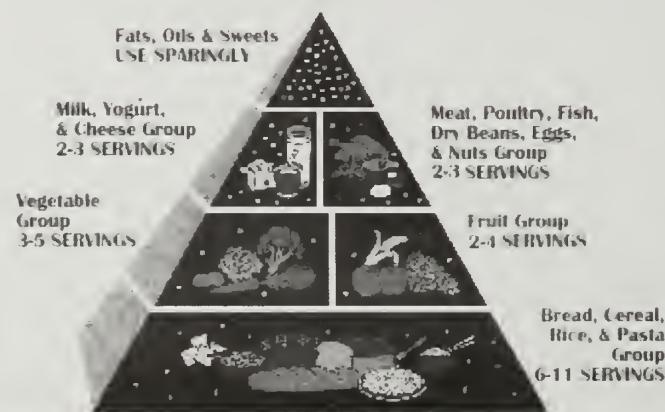
Protein deficiency is a major worry for many people, particularly athletes. Whole grain wheats, grain products, nuts and other plants and vegetables can provide sufficient protein.

Vitamin B12 - a vitamin important in the formation of red blood cells - is primarily found in meat, dairy and eggs. However, certain breakfast cereals, veggie burger mixes, and yeast extracts are fortified with B12.

Without dairy, calcium can be obtained from calcium-fortified soymilk, orange juice, and green leafy vegetables - collard greens, kale, spinach.

Iron and vitamin E also can be obtained from collards, kale, broccoli and other dark greens, along with dried fruits, whole grains, nuts, seeds, beans, and legumes.

Good sources for zinc are



pumpkin, beans and lentils, wholegrain cereals, and dairy.

Other vitamins can be found in vitamin fortified products, like cereals.

Steve states he consumes more vitamins, minerals and protein than he did before the switch, without the unhealthy aspects of eating meat. In addition, his family eventually accepted vegetarianism as a healthier way of life and have made the change as well.

What's on the menu?

Fajitas, Burritos, Tacos, Spaghetti, Chinese food - Alex's dinner menu does not sound much different than that of a meat eater. Except, his "meat" is actually textured vegetable protein with similar seasoning. Breakfast consists of scrambled tofu with veggie bacon or veggie sausages. Lunch is beans and rice with a tortilla, a veggie burger, or veggie hot dogs.

Treasure lists cereal as a major source of meals - fortified with many vitamins - as well as broccoli with rice. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are another way he chooses to supplement the vitamins and minerals.

Steve, on the other hand, insists that the vegetarian/vegan diet is so versatile and unlimiting that he could not compile a single list.

Some websites have long lists of ideas for vegetarian and vegan recipes, such as www.morningstar.com and www.vegweb.com

Considering?

Making the transition to become vegetarian or vegan varies in difficulty. Steve only had a difficult period of two weeks before he considered himself "deprogrammed". Alex became vegetarian easily, simply avoiding obvious meat or meat products. However, 10 years later, when he became vegan, avoiding all meat by products proved to be more of a task, particularly when dining outside of his home. Steve, who is a lacto-ovo vegetarian and currently considering becoming vegan, formed the Nova Southeastern University Vegetarian Society with a mission to change foods in the dining halls to offer more options for non-meat eaters and perhaps smooth the transition.

The American Dietetic Association suggests that as one begins to consider, they take the following steps to get a jump start:

- ~ Explore new foods at the grocery store. Pick out a different meat-free product from the freezer section each week. Food manufacturers offer familiar, pre-cooked and convenient meat-free products such as burgers, hot dogs, "chicken" nuggets, corn dogs and breakfast foods.
- ~ Load up on fresh fruits and vegetables.
- ~ Buy a new cookbook or look for meatless recipes in the newspaper or food magazines. Try one new one per week.
- ~ Try a vegetarian entree at a restaurant.

When adopting a vegetarian lifestyle, versatility is the key, and the results - of both health and moral nature - can be quite rewarding.

For more information, research resources such as the American Dietetic Association, <http://www.eatright.org>; and the Vegetarian Resource Group at <http://www.vrg.org> or 410-366-8343.

**If you have any questions concerning Health...
Please feel free to contact
MAPS:**

**numinorityprehealth
@yahoo.com**

IS YOUR THONG RUBBING YOU THE WRONG WAY?

It used to be that thongs were saved for particular naughty nights, but after a whole summer of looping Sisqo's "Thong Song," most women went out and stocked their lingerie drawers full of the scanty panties. While women did it to be trendy, sexy and not to mention to get rid of the awful, visible panty line, some doctors are saying that thongs are wrong. Thong popularity is on the rise but consequently, so is vaginal infections caused by the lingerie. According to Honey magazine, Dr. Lisa Masterson, M.D., a Los Angeles-based gynecologist, "Thong" Cont'd on page 12

Frustrated About Reaching the Big O?

Concerned about making that final climax this Valentine's Day? Esperantina, Brazil has officially approved an annual Orgasm Day for May 9th to encourage its residents to work harder to achieve sexual satisfaction. The Onyx Informer introduces you to a few ways to help you rev up your plot:

Set the Mood-Cueing up the right music with a few scented candles to produce some sensual scents is a great start to making your own noteworthy O Day. Relax with your mate to feel comfortable with who you're working with.

Communicate-You have to make sure your partner knows what they're doing and what you want them to do. Females pump up your man's ego when he's touching you and tell him how wonderful he is. This makes it easier for you to direct him and tell him what to do to you-like go softer or move to the right. Males, the same goes. Most females are willing and able if you make them feel comfortable enough to not have regrets.

Foreplay-This can be done through tantric measures. Tantra, the ancient Indian art of sexual pleasure will add spice to the blandest of _____. Adding water to the backdrop can also provide some sexy highlights. The best place to please yourself is in the Jacuzzi or bathtub. Keep in mind to be playful. Laughing and joking around is the best way to let your inhibitions go.

Be Naughty-Throwing some kinky innuendos about how you'd like the night to go wouldn't hurt. If you're getting together for a movie, make it an x-rated flick. It's a great way to get a demonstration of how things are done. Role-playing is another good way to make that other person flip out.

Follow Up-Keep the climax at a high point. Add multiple volumes and retain interesting plots. While it's important to do things you feel comfortable with, spontaneity adds the proper lubrication that leads to slippery, silky, sexy and pleasurable sex. One way of insuring the next story will be better than the last is to have guest features-electric massagers, vibrators and sex toys will blow your mind.

There is hardly any money interest in art, and music will be there when money is gone. ~ Duke Ellington

ONYX Edutainment

A One Man Show

By Onyx Staff

Already into the year of 2k2, we're hit with many hot new albums and music collaborations as well as new artists on the scene. Most exciting of that bunch are the truly unknown whose talents promise they'll be making waves in the coming years. Among the most notable are Toronto native Glenn Lewis, with his Stevie Wonder-flavored Quiet Storm nugget "Don't You Forget It," off the debut album, *World Outside My Window*, due March 19 from Epic Records. This album is a solid compilation of mellow grooves that build slow, then burn hot just like a good lover should. Although his album won't make it in time for Valentine's Day, the ladies should keep in mind to keep this on the shopping list for future love-filled nights.

This one-man show says he's influenced by what he refers to as the "Holy Trinity": music legends Donny Hathaway, Stevie Wonder and Charlie Wilson. It makes sense that Glenn Lewis possesses a simple and smooth sound or as India.Arie would comment, "Glenn Lewis has all the good stuff - warm, passionate, emotional, simply beautiful." He skips materialistic mantras and focuses on the good life with his track "Simple Things" and flips the rhythmic

script on "This Love." He also showcases admirable storytelling skills on tracks as "Don't You Forget It."

"Glenn Lewis is the truth - soulful old school with a new school vibe reminiscent of what we grew up on." - Andre Harris & Vidal Davis (producers - Jill Scott, Michael Jackson, Musiq Soulchild, Bilal)

"His voice is a story inside itself. The words & music are a plus!" - Jill Scott



Straight Out The Dungeons of Rap: Nas - Stillmatic

"Ay yo' the brother's Stillmatic..." This first line from Nas's latest project (Stillmatic) explains it all. From when he blessed us with the world-renowned classic, Illmatic, he let us know that he was coming out of the dungeons of rap, where fake mc's won't make it back. From then on, he did it how he predicted to do it, through righteous steps. OK, he may have hit us over the head with more than a couple of commercial joints, but damn, that was where hip-hop was at during that time period. You can't blame a brother for putting food on his table without selling his soul like most of these other rappers. "It Was Written" had joints like "I Gave You Power" & other songs that most rappers are still trying to copy to this date. Then he hit us with "I Am..." to bring it back to the essence while still touching on the political scale. "Nastradamus" had sleepers like "Last Words" and "Life We Chose", and he still talked about retribution on a song with Ginuwine. So for all the nap time people and haters who thought he couldn't come back from the harsh attacks from other rappers, he hits us with tracks like "Ether" and "One Mic". Since I enjoy those political

songs, tracks number 12-15 are crazy, with "What Goes Around" being my favorite ("This n!##@ Ike with the Iverson jersey..."). From getting tired of every time I say "Holla Back" and having my 1 and half year old niece respond "Woo-Woo", songs like "You're Da Man" are easy enough for her to sing the chorus, which is fine by me. Seeing the latest trend of Hip-Hop going back to the essence, and now that most people have money, MC's are going to get on a new hustle and bring back the lyrical side of things. This album holds it's own and proves that this Queens native stayed positive and never left those dungeons of the mind from whence he came.

Hubcaps to 20-inch rims rating system:

This album gets a 20-inch rim rating, with the fly ride to go with it!

In the next edition of Hub Caps to Dub Raps, I will be looking into the latest events taking place in and around town. I will also be analyzing the new joint from Dead Prez. Shoutouts to IBLT, Central, Etelligent, Venom, Homemade, YoBe, and all them cats on their grind!

By Killa B Da Bandit

HAVE YOUR PARTY OR EVENT REVIEWED.

JUST WRITE TO US.

ONYXINFORMER@YAHOO.COM

"Thong" Cont'd from page

cologist says, "thongs are often responsible for a variety of vaginal infections." Masterson contends that regular thong use may result in an increased risk of yeast infections, labial lacerations and even hemorrhoids. "The design of the thong can irritate delicate tissue while the nylon construction traps moisture, creating a breeding ground for bacteria." The size of the thong

matters greatly for comfort as well as health. If there is not ample material in the hind section of the lingerie the results may be strenuous on vaginal and anal tissues. You don't have to switch completely to the granny panties, but women should keep in mind to save thongs for those special occasions and with that special outfit.

Ms. Nubian

Dear Ms. Nubian,

How do I keep my skin moisturized during the winter? My skin is always dry and sometimes starts to peel or hurt. -Dried Out

Dear Dried Out, Winter weather can be harsh on your skin. Add to that the dry air in our homes due to home heat, our skin just can't retain as much moisture as it normally does in the spring, summer or fall. However, there are a few things you can do. First, using lotion only once a day is not nearly enough. You should moisturize with a lotion, such as Vaseline Intensive Care Advanced Healing at least two times per day. Get into a routine, for example lotion when you get dressed in the morning and when you get undressed at night. Second, after bathing and while your skin is still moist, use Baby oil gel (or regular baby oil) on your body before lotioning. The baby oil will help lock in moisture and can keep your skin nice and soft for up to two days when used prior to lotioning. Finally, skin can dry out from heating methods used during winter month that take moisture out of the air. So, using a humidifier can help to preserve the moisture in the air. If you do not have a humidifier, place a large pot of water on the stove, and turn the eye on to a very low setting to help the water evaporate into the air. *Be Very Careful not to let the pot run out of water and do not leave the oven on when you are not at home.*

Dear Ms. Nubian,

I'm a dude, what can I do about my dry hair? - Afro Man

Fellas, just 'cause you're a dude, don't mean you should take care of your hair. And ladies, this is for you too! If your hair is hard, brittle, and/or dried out...take my advice, and invest in some black hair care products. Your scalp is very important in the health and look of your hair. Use a light grease, such as TCB Naturals Hair & Scalp Conditioner, to grease your scalp about once a week. To grease your scalp, part hair, and apply a small amount directly on the scalp with fingers. Repeat until most of the scalp has been covered. Then, massage scalp to simulate the roots for at least 30 seconds to a minute.

Also, buy a moisturizing spray to use every 2-3 times a week. The spray should be used sparingly; just enough to moisten the hair... but it should not drip down your face. Remember, washing black hair everyday can make hair dry and brittle. Unless involved in strenuous activity that causes your head to sweat, don't wash hair more than once weekly.

Keeping Black People Beautiful, Healthy, & Informed!

Hang or Bang: By Killa B Da Bandit

Top 5 Albums to Bang (Albums You Need to Purchase!)

1. Big Boi & Dre Present...OUTKAST
"The Greatest hits, plus three more... The Whole World can't deny it"
2. Wu-Tang Clan-Iron Flag
"Look who's back from the 36 Chambers...!"
3. How High-The Soundtrack
"Better than the movie"
- 4.) Gil Scott Heron-The Revolution Will Not Be Televised
"Classics speak for themselves"
- 5.) Reks-Along Came the Chosen
"Stop hitting your snooze button on this album, go support Boston artist"

Top 10 Albums to Hang (Albums that should stay on the shelf)

I tried to limit to 5, but there were just too many...run, save your money.

1. Ruff Ryders Vol. 3-In the R We Trust
"2 is good, 3's a crowd"
2. Master P-Gameface
"Are you serious? Ooooh Weeee?"
3. Bell Biv Devoe-BBD
"Please refer to 'He Said-She Said' question #4 [pg. 15]"
4. Dungeon Family-Even in Darkness
"Not typical, but this really disappointed me"
5. Nate Dogg-Music & Me
"On this album Nate Dogg forgot the music part"
6. Petey Pablo-Diary of a Sinner: 1st Entry
"Let's just hope that this is his first and last (can we say 1 hit wonder?)"
7. Bubba Sparxx-40 Days & 40 Nights
"#@%&\$*(@#)_#(*#&*\$ngly\$&@%@%.!&#&@%#&@%"
(I'm just mad he even came out!)"*
8. Poster Boy-Dj Clue Freestyles
"Another example of good battle rappers gone bad"
9. Mystikal-Tarantula
"He must be competing with Master P for worst album of the year"
10. Cypress Hill-Stoned Raiders
"I bet you didn't even know they came back out huh?"

If you would like to ask Ms. Nubian a question, or would like her to report on a topic/issue, write to: OnyxInformer@yahoo.com Include Ms. Nubian in the subject line.

Soul Speech

15 minutes of pleasure,
Equals 9 months of pain,
Or one simple operation,
The choice is not only mine though
She is the sole carrier of collective fate
If only in a protected state
We could still feel innocent
Giving in to the collection plate
How drastic to rob from fate
Nine months of pain, in vain?
Such a predicament from hedonistic tendencies
Will shackled my urges
But lost power after I tasted the forbidden
Seeing what I thought was a body of heaven
Leaving me now to question the pleasures of that
mirage
Two souls locked in passion
Equal one innocent spirit
Any thoughts of mistakes are gone
His eyes represent all that I am,
And hopefully all that I am not
His mass insignificant to the universe
But enveloping my entire existence
With visions of persistence
I can guide this sun to daylight
Nature and Nurture
On the delicate walk of life
This sun rises in my shadow
Takes Flight
And sets after my night
The moon illuminates the sky
Like the thought of his existence in my world
...In our world...
Pain is what we choose
And for eternity
He shall be the light from our darkness

~ Anonomous

My pace was heavy and quick and
When I caught my breath I
smiled at the beauty I saw.
The sun's rays didn't allow
me to clearly examine the
dark sentiments I had
towards your past. I was
too busy laughing, enjoying you.

My SUPER ego got the best of you...
I showed you my insecurities

Helped are those who create anything at all, for they shall relive the thrill of their own conception and realize a partnership in the creation of the Universe that keeps them responsible and cheerful. ~ **Alice Walker**, *Temple of*

21 THINGS

BLACK PEOPLE SHOULD DO

By Tavis Smiley (Host on BET and the Tom Joyner Morning Show)

1. Register to vote, or shutup!
2. Take all that money out of those stocking caps, tin cans, mattresses, and floorboards and invest money in something. For starters, invest in the food you eat and clothes you wear.
3. Learn another language, ebonics do not count.
4. Stop using the "N" word in the year 2001, especially since Merriam-Webster has announced it isn't changing the definition.
5. Buy something each week from a black vendor.
6. Stop blaming white folk for 98% of your problems, while giving them 100% of your money.
7. Subscribe to Ebony, JET, Black Enterprise, Essence. Then subscribe to one of the three weeklies: Time, Newsweek, or US News and World Report. After we read about what's going on in our world, how about knowing what's going on in theirs? It is, after all, your world.
8. Stop walking past each other and not speaking.
9. Be on time for something... anything!
10. Get an annual check up; herbs do not cure everything!
11. In all thy ways acknowledge Him (GOD) and he shall direct thy path. And prioritize this as #1.
12. Stop being jealous of one another, learn to look past the material things and See the person for who they are.
13. Get involved in at least one charitable or voluntary community service.
14. Say a prayer for someone besides yourself.
15. Hug your child/spouse/parent today.
16. LOVE ONE ANOTHER.
17. Learn to Let Go and Let God.
18. Stop talking about it, and be about it.
19. Let GOD order your steps instead of the world.
20. P.U.S.H.!! Pray Until Something Happens!
21. In all that you do, get understanding, (turn off the TV, and open a book).

Don't just read this, DO IT and encourage others.

without explaining to you the
intuity of me. But I wanted
you with all your troubles.

Understand, I'm only human

It was my uncertainty that held me.
It told me what I could not see or
hear or understand at the time.
I FELT through my emotions:
ANGER

DISGUST
EMBARASSMENT
DEPRESSION...finally
REMNISCENT memories of LOVE.

Understand, I'm only human.

We still remain friends.
After it all I am still laughing
enjoying you.

Expressed by: Damn Lie

He Said...

- 1) With the success of Nas' latest album, is Jay-Z going to title his next LP "Still Reasonable Doubt?"
- 2) And since Jay-Z and R. Kelly are working on a project together, wouldn't it be hot if Nas and Lauryn Hill crushed all competition with a callabo?
- 3) Don't you miss Lauryn Hill?
- 4) Why did Bell Biv Devoe come back out?
- 5) Why does NU's late night entertainment venue only host Hip-Hop once a week?
- 6) Is it because it brings in enough people to make up for the rest of the week when nobody shows up?
- 7) Ladies, do those **F's** on your bag stand for **Fake**?
- 8) How High did you have to be to watch How High?
- 9) Do you remember the last banging party you went to?
- 10) With Northeastern being an educational environment, isn't it weird how many of the administrators are really uneducated?
- 11) Who are you more afraid of, Suge Knight or Bin Laden?
- 12) The next time you're at a NU party, shouldn't the dj say, "If you got a Co-op job throw your hands up"?
- 12.5) Aren't these questions better than...?

She Said...

- 1) After three kids, don't we all wish we'll look as good as Faith?
- 2) And on that note if Mariah Carey got thick from goin' crazy, then there's a bunch of females that need to start flippin' out!!
- 3) Ladies, if you're rockin' the latest knockoff gucci, do it with class, gap and guess really aren't designer!!! (see #7 He Said)
- 4) Who missed Brandy??
- 5) For all you groupies out there...money isn't everything, they have to be rich and look good!! DUH
- 6) Speaking of looks, don't you feel stupid after you proclaimed gay, sorry Jay-z to be your babies daddy when he's being compared to JJ Evans, a camel, and even Scooby doo? "Money ain't a thang" (ouch!)
- 7) If you're so patriotic, why didn't you have an American flag up before 9/11?
- 8) Yeah I'm feelin' the whole thug love thang, but Prodigy you are not sexy, please keep your shirt on.
- 9) Can you see this tatted on Fabolous' frame "D E N T I S T" (it's funny when you spell it out ok, so humor me)
- 10) Aren't you tired of grown ass men doin' the Harlem shake, I'm sayin'???
- 11) When is the cornrow evolution going to end?? Free yourself.
- 12) Is the 20 something year old from IMX still named batman??
- 24.5) Obviously I'm biased, but isn't the IBLT fam doin' it for NU??

LATER HATTER

He Said/She Said

25 Questions From Both Perspectives

By Flacito de Oro & his stank ass sister

Sports In February
What I want to talk about...

Dear By-AsSports,

What do you feel is the most watched sporting event in February, out of Baseball, Boxing, Basketball or Football?

Sincerely, Ummmm Me

Dear Ummmm Me,

I believe the answer to that question lies in....

Baseball? Nah that season doesn't even start until sometime in spring right? Negotiations and trades are happening but do ya'll want to know about those?

Boxing? Maybe. Tyson vs. Lewis? Nah, that's not 'til April 6th but even when that date arrives, us boxing fiends (ya'll say "boxing fanatics") might be fooled, 5 days after the original day of "Sike!" and "You are so damn gullible (stupid)!" believing that the fight is going to take place. The Nevada commission is fronting on licensing Tyson for the heavyweight championship fight against Lewis. Authorities on the matter say it is because of the ruckus that occurred at the scheduled news conference on January 22nd. Tyson threw an uncharacteristic left hook (he missed horribly) at a Lewis bodyguard. Lewis retaliated, and all that I can say that happened from then on after, is just an assumption that, everyone thought

they were at the club or a Wellesley party, where the females were scarce (ironic), and the jump off, ANTE UP! just blasted out from the sound system, because heads were amped and wilin out!!! Makes sense doesn't it? All I know is that many people don't want Tyson to live; because he says lines like "I want to eat your kids". I'm saying, eating kids and praying to Allah don't go together. He was not serious maaaaannnn. So, COME ON, WILL YA! My prediction, Tyson wins by decision, but Lewis might not be able to hear it. Yeah I know that was dirty of me. The last thing I want to say about this is that there are other fights happening in February, but I'm only focused

"Sports" Cont'd on page 18

I'm not comfortable being preachy, but more people need to start spending as much time in the library as they do on the basketball court. If they took the idea that they could escape poverty through education, I think it would make a more basic and long-lasting change in the way things happen. What we need are positive, realistic goals and the willingness to work. Hard work and practical goals. ~ **Kareem Abdul-Jabbar** (Ferdinand Lewis Alcindor, Jr.), 1990

The Onyx Book List.

A very special selection compiled especially for Black History Month. This selections goes beyond the normal one or two book review to highlight books or authors that are definitely contributing to the education of Black/African history and culture evrywhere.

Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race from 4500bc to 2000ad

Chancellor Williams

This book took Chancellor Williams sixteen years of research and field study to compile. It was to serve as a reinterpretation of the history of the African race, and was intended to be "a general rebellion against the subtle message from even the most 'liberal' white authors (and their Negro disciples): 'You belong to a race of nobodies. You have no worthwhile history to point to with pride.'"

The book is premised on the question: "If the Blacks were among the very first builders of civilization and their land the birthplace of civilization, what has happened to them that has left them since then, at the bottom of world society, precisely what happened? The Caucasian answer is simple and well-known: The Blacks have always been at the bottom." Williams argues that many elements have aided in the destruction of the black civilization, emphasizing nature, imperialism, and stolen legacies.

The Destruction of Black Civilization offers a new approach to the research, teaching, and study of African history. It refocuses the history of Arabs and Europeans in Africa to the Africans; providing "a history of blacks that is a history of blacks. Because only from history can we learn what our strengths were and, especially, in what particular aspect we are weak and vulnerable. Our history can then become at once the foundation and guiding light for united efforts in serious planning what we should be about now." It was part of the evolution of the black revolution that took place in the 1970s, as the focus shifted from politics to matters of the mind."

The African Origin of Civilization

Cheikh Anta Diop

"The African Origin of Civilization" was edited and translated by Mercer Cook. It is a one-volume translation of the major sections of two of Diop's books, "Nations noires et culture" and "Anteriorité des civilisations noires." Diop's writings have had a profound influence on how Africa is perceived around the world.

The Isis Papers: The Keys to the Colors

Frances Cress Welsing

Excerpt - The Cress Theory of Color-Confrontation and Racism (White Supremacy): A Psychogenetic Theory and World Outlook (1970)

Unlike religion, the body of knowledge known as science takes the position that all observable phenomena can be explained, or, at least, is grist for the mill of investigation, analysis and understanding by the human mind.

In today's very small world at least three-quarters of the people are "non-white," and the numbers of this "non-white" majority population are subjected to domination throughout their lives, either directly or indirectly, by a tiny minority of the world's people who classify themselves as "white." Racism (white supremacy) then, is revealed as one of, if not *the* most important observable phenomenon in the world today for which social, behavioral and all other scientists should be seeking an explanation.

Heretofore, racism has been defined and described variously.... Yet in my view, the comment made by Oliver C. Cox in his 1959 award winning text, "Caste, Class and Race" (Monthly Review Press), still prevails:

It is not ordinarily realized that, all the great mass of writing on race rela-

tions, there is available no consistent theory of race relations. The need for such a sociological explanation is so great that recently, when one author succeeded, with some degree of superficial logic, in explaining the phenomena in terms of caste relations, the college textbooks and social-science journals, almost unanimously and unquestioningly, hurriedly adopted his theory.

They Came before Columbus

"This controversial book by Ivan Van Sertima, the Guyanese historian, linguist, and anthropologist, claims that Africans had been to the New World centuries before Columbus arrived there in 1492. Citing—among other things—the huge Negroid-looking Olmec heads of Central Mexico and the similarities between the Aztec and Egyptian calendars and pyramid structures, Van Sertima pieces together a hidden history of pre-Columbian contact between Africans and Native Americans. He also puts forth the possibility that Columbus may have already known about a route to the Americas from his years in Africa as a trader in Guinea. The ideas in this book have been debated and discussed since its first publication in 1976; even those who choose not to believe Van Sertima's theories should take his argument seriously." (Eugene Holley, Jr., Amazon.com Review)

After reading this book, it is impossible not to see the unmistakably Black African influence in Pre-Columbian America, on the Native American civilizations there.

Race First: The Ideological and Organizational Struggles of Marcus Garvey & the Universal Negro Improvement Association

Tony Martin

"Race First" is arguably the most thoroughly researched study of Marcus Garvey

and the Garvey Movement. Dr. Martin's research goes in-depth to provide a historical account of the mission Marcus Garvey dedicated his life to. From Garvey's understanding of the importance of psychology and economics to the establishment of the 996 UNIA chapters, we are presented with the struggle Garvey faced for the achievement of his goals. Dr. Martin also highlights the US and colonial governments conspiracy to prevent the UNIA's program and publication from succeeding.

The book is essential in understanding the "Black African Nationalist" impulse of Africans in the Diaspora.

Visions for Black Men

by Na'Thi Akbar

Visions for Black Men address issues that are critically important for all of us: How do we restore African manhood to those whom the society has not viewed as the chosen people?

Excerpt from the section From Maleness to Manhood:

The full title for this section should be: "From Maleness to Manhood: The Transformation of the African-American Consciousness, or For Colored Boys Who Have Considered Homicide When Manhood Was Enough." We presume as a given that American has been, still is, and very probably will be for a long time to come, a striving, sturdy racist society. We are aware that from the White House to the unemployment lines there is clear evidence that racism is still the American way. We are aware of the continuing atrocities in South Africa and we accept that this is probably one of the most difficult times that African people have faced in the entirety of our history. Even though we accept the reality of these challenges we submit that all of these problems which invited so much attention may, in fact, be only symptomatic of something more basic that affects us that has not been realized. We also want to suggest the possibility that there is a weapon yet undeveloped among ourselves which, if developed, could perhaps eliminate both the symptoms and the problems.

Those Bones Are Not My Child

Toni Cade Bambara

A story that puts us at the center of the nightmare of the Atlanta child murders. "It was called "The City Too Busy To Hate,"

but two decades ago more than forty black children were murdered there with grim determination, their bodies found - in ditches, on riverbanks- strangled, beaten, and sexually assaulted. "On Sunday morning, July 20, 1980, Marzala Rawls Spencer awakens to find that her teenage son has gone missing, even as the Atlanta child abductions are beginning to be reported. As she and her estranged husband frantically search for their son, the story moves with authority through the full spectrum of Atlanta's political, social, and cultural life, illuminating the vexing issues of race and class that belevil the city. - From the publisher

Bambara's final novel, published four years after her death, should be remembered, critics say, because it gives face to racism and illuminates the struggles of urban black Americans. Her style voices a sense of loss, gives full human dimension to events that for many flash by like billboards at highway speed. It took Bambara 12 years, until her death, to articulate the illuminate the struggles of urban Black Americans.

Bambara was not only an author, but worked as a writer, filmmaker, educator, social worker and activist. She died in 1995.

The Salt Eaters

Toni Cade Bambara

Set in Claybourne, a small town somewhere in the South, THE SALT EATERS is the story of a community of black faith healers who, searching for the healing properties of salt, witness an event that will change their lives forever (From the Publisher). Bambara's first novel chronicling black urban life in the South through the 1950s and 60s, he book is written in the traditional style of African story telling and the characters inhabit the non-linear, sacred space and sacred time of traditional African religion.

Linden Hills

Gloria R. Naylor

The spokesman in this "novel of black suburban life is Luther Nedeed, an embittered undertaker, who developed the posh black enclave of Linden Hills to be a 'blister to the community.' Generations later, two young street-smart boys, Willie and Lester, stumble upon the awful secret of Luther Nedeed's descent and the true meaning of Linden Hills." (Libr J)

Naylor's characters are created with a carefully chosen word, sentence, or quotation. In 'Linden Hills,' there are no cheap shots at middle-class black life; something like the twilight zone of the 'Bill Cosby Show.' Critics assert that Naylor's book is a poignant and moving look at men and women together and in conflict, through her use of literary symbol and historical example. Linden Hills has many compelling moments, the hypocrisy, loveless marriages and marital infidelities, and idleness of this community creates a worthwhile read.

Bailey's Cafe

Gloria R. Naylor

Bailey's Cafe is the setting in which the book's characters "tell stories from their lives. . . . Bailey's and the nearby boarding house (which some call a bordello) offer respite for those who have been battered in the outside world." (Libr J)

The story takes place in a New York alley, set in a diner where the food isn't very good and the ambience veers between heaven and hell, say reviewers. Bailey, is a bitter ex-soldier from Brooklyn; Nadine, his quietly humorous wife, who makes terrific peach cobbler. Bailey's Café (the most mythically real eating place you've ever walked into), is a magnet that draws a wide variety of society's detritus, each with her own story to tell. There is Sadie, whose addiction to alcohol is second only to her mania for cleanliness; Sweet Esther, who takes nothing but white roses for her very particular favors; Peaches, whose badly mutilated face is in sharp contrast to her goddess's body; Miss Maple, a transvestite who makes a handsome living by entering soap flake contests; and Mariam, the Ethiopian child who may be the bearer of a miracle. One would call them misfits all, but in the magical aura of Bailey's Cafe, as the new year approaches, each becomes a universal creature of biblical stature. Reviewers highlight that the book examines a broad spectrum of black women's lives while dealing with the complexities of a multi-ethnic American society still caught up in restrictive notions of color, gender and culture. It bridges ancient stories and modern problems to create a context for the mutilations women have suffered and a space for curing their souls.

Northeastern University: Sports Roundup

After coming off what many considered a soft season, the women's hockey team is right at the top where they belong. The women Huskies are currently ranked second in the nation behind Minnesota with a 20-2-0 (11-2-0 ECAC) record. The Huskies started off the season with an impressive 10-1 start in which they beat other top schools such as Vermont, Mercyhurst, and St. Lawrence. The teams success this year can be contributed to their hard work as well by leading scorers Brooke Whitney (Sr), Brooke White (Jr), and the great play in defending the net by Sophomore goalie Chanda Gunn. If the team continues on their streak of success, they should be able to bring home the Beanpot this year as well as compete for the NCAA National Championships this year. Also in women's news former Husky Shelley Looney has been selected to the 2002 U.S. Olympic Women's Hockey team. Looney can be best remembered for her game-winning goal in the 1998 Olympic gold-medal game against Canada.

In following the women's success the men's hockey team has displayed strong play this season. Yet the team is only a few games above .500, they have recorded big wins over the nations top teams. Their biggest wins of the season came against defending National Champions Boston College back in late October, and most recently back-to-back wins over then third ranked UMass-Lowell. The Huskies have shown strong play within league competition and look as if they are on the path to finish third or better within league play.

In other men's hockey news Senior Captain Jim Fahey has been named a candidate for the Hobey Baker Award. The Hobey Baker Award is given annually to the nation's top collegiate hockey player. At this time Fahey is currently in first place as a fan favorite, fans can vote for Fahey at <http://www.hobeybaker.com/vfh/>

On the other side of success, there is what we will like to call things could be better. This year was supposed to mark a new change in men's basketball here at Northeastern. Instead this year has brought back

many old memories. The memories that many Husky fans would soon love to forget. The men's team at 4-16 (2-7 America East) has had to deal with a tough season. In the realignment of the America East Conference, in what many analyst felt would at least help the Huskies has ended up hurting the Huskies. In all of the men's games this season they have held their ground as well as held big leads only to end up losing at the end. One of the bright spots for the men's team this season can be seen as their hard work and ability not to just give up, something that has been noticeable in past years. With a lot of new recruits this year, the team is sure to have a lot of returning players for next season.

As for the Women Huskies, things couldn't get any worse. Coach White coming off an impressive first season last year had high expectations for this season. The women's team at 4-15 (2-6 America East) is quite similar record to the men's team. Several injuries to key players have forced the team to suffer. It looks as though with many of the key players out for the remainder of the season, the young Huskies will have the opportunity to get to play together and at least begin working on next season.

"Sports" Cont'd from page

on Tyson-Lewis. If anyone has the hook up to the hot box, holla at da kid. They are buggin with them pay per view prices, like I ain't a college student.

celebrities competing in the inaugural 989 Sports All-Star Hoop-It-Up. My prediction, the ultimate victory is going to one of the old school "hoopers" I mean, it is the "HOOP"- It- Up tournament right. The present playgrounds only produce ballers. one? No I am not being raunchy, I am just asking because, it is going to be interesting to see how Iverson and Jordan work together being how it is well known that they tend to take the most shots per game than anyone else in the league. Steve Francis can play the point solely if he has too; so Kobe

pretty much lucked out with have to share the rock. My prediction, the East by 2. MVP will go to MJ.

Football? Alright Patriots. Whew – hew! Yeah! Nah, I'm not even gonna hate on the Pats. They did their thing this season. The questions is, how? There I go hatin' again. Aight let's not focus on that, it's all about the love. The answer to your question, Ummm Me, lies in football, and it is the super-bowl. This year it falls on February 3rd, but every year Super Bowl Sunday controls the attention of Americans coast to coast and is the most watched sports event nationally, on any given day of the year. At SuperBowl XXXVI, AFC Champions the New England Patriots will battle it out against NFC Champions St. Louis Rams. Bledsoe made a return for the Pats. I believe that was a set up, but I'm not gonna speak much on that. It's been 5 years since the Patriots been to the bowl and 2 years since the Rams blessed the fans once again with their presence. I am writing from an area in which the fans have not had a chance to cheer for any of their teams in a minute, so I will add on to the patriotism of the New England area by saying, Let's Go Giants... I mean Patriots.



My prediction, Boston would have worked hard for nothing. If they win, I will not be in the New England area for about two weeks because I know I am going to hear it. Good Luck.

Sincerely,

By-AsSports

"King" Cont'd from page 9

United States, born and educated in the USA. New Georgia, Virginia and Maryland are places in Liberia named by American settlers. Still, after horrific violence in their homeland that killed 250,000 civilians, 10,000 Liberian refugees fled to the United States because of their American ties. They are yet to be granted refugee status more than a decade after arrival. During the same period, over 300,000 European refugees admitted in the USA from Bosnia have acquired the Green Card and US citizenship. As for the Liberians they are subjected to an annual ritual of the threat of forced repatriation back to Africa. "The more things change, the more they stay the same!"

The Liberians reside here legally, have American born children in American schools, work, pay taxes but are banned from benefits of taxpayers such as Masshealth medical insurance, public housing, financial aid and student loans because they have not been given refugee status. Many who fled here over a decade ago still remain indefinitely separated from their children and spouses in refugee camps. Many sit here hopelessly and helplessly watching their children die in refugee camps of treatable diseases such as dysentery, dehydration and malaria. They have the closest ties to America than Bosnians but like their ancestors, their Black Skins hinder their progress. They can neither freely travel abroad nor freely live in America like other refugees similarly situated. A quick resolution of this problem is a greater honor to Dr. King than an eloquent King's Day speech from the White House or the Rep House!

Yes, with a lot of sacrifices, progress was made over the past decade. The quota for Africa was increased from 3500 to 22,000. The "Lost Boys Of Sudan" finally come to America after over a decade in the deserts. Nearly 2500 Liberian refugees were able to unite with their families in the year 2000. The number of African refugees coming to Massachusetts has risen from 3% in 1997 to 29% in the year 2000. An average of 2500

refugees come to Massachusetts yearly. Two bills have been introduced in the United States Congress to resolve the humanitarian problem of legal limbo for legitimate refugees from Liberia residing here for the past decade: (***The Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness ACTS 656 & HR1806***) The entire congressional delegation of Massachusetts did co-sponsor the Liberian refugee bills. Still, considering the chorus of people singing praises to Dr. King the depth of their pockets and the dwindling numbers who actually put in a dime to further social change and peaceful co-existence in our world, we've got a mighty long way to go in ensuring that concrete steps are taken to keep King's Dream alive.

The urgency of Dr. King's message after September 11 demands that we speed up the journey towards keeping King's dream alive. And it is in this light that I urge the City of Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The United States Congress, the White House, churches, businesses and foundations on King's birthday to make a birthday gift not of words but of deeds as follows:

1. Ending the decade old misery of Liberian refugees in the United States by passing ***The Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act***
2. Putting money into a special King's Social Change and Peace Fund to keep his dream alive.

These two concrete steps would put our community and our world in the fast lane on the King's Highway. Even Jesus Christ would agree. Jesus said. "***Where your treasures are, there will your heart be also***"

By Torli H. Krua, Executive Director of the Universal Human Rights International, a coalition of refugee communities serving immigrants and refugees from African nations. For comments and questions, contact Torli Krua 1146 Harrison Ave. Roxbury, MA 02119 617-784-5980 ktorli@hotmail.com

"Afghan" Cont'd from page 9

damentals, reading, writing, arithmetic, and let's not forget freedom.

These children are innocent in the world's quest to crush the diabolical forces of terrorism and it's agents. Of course, no sane person can criticize the education of children who have been deprived for so long. Even patriotic Americans cheered over the admittance of Autherine Lucy, Ruby Bridges, and James Meredith the great universities of the Bible belt. However, I find it very interesting that prior to 9/11, American troops were not concerned with the "oppressive forces" of the Taliban. The mis-education or lack of education for Afghan children became an ancillary issue fused in with the War on Terrorism. A proposed slogan is "Let's eradicate the evil that mutilated the towers, and yes perhaps change the way of the Afghan people."

The change in cultural, religious, and political norms is a direct correlation to a dismantling of the Taliban, which we all owe to the war on terrorism. However, it is incorrect to credit the war on terrorism as the end of the Taliban. According to Maroofi, the Taliban lacks necessary deft to handle political, social, and economic, and cultural affairs—one reason why they are under so much scrutiny from the entire world. That was in 1998; four years later, the Taliban is no longer slowly slipping through the fingers of America's hand. Kudos! To our politicians and citizens who aided in the war on terrorism. However, the recent change in power in Afghanistan should not be compared to the abolishment of terrorism, more so a shift in who's really calling the shots. I salute the 15-year-old girl who yearns to explore the world of medicine, but question the forces that oppressed her until now. The Emancipation Proclamation was not about freeing the slaves in the same way changes in Afghan culture are not about the war on terrorism. Hopefully, we too shall overcome one day and work to attack the root causes of disunity in the world—before it takes another catastrophe.

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